

THE RIO NEWS.

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NUMBER 50

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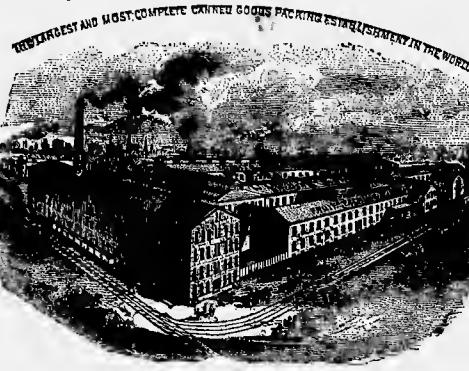
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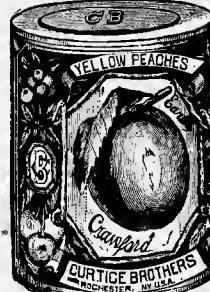
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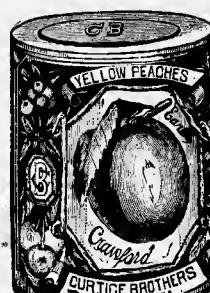
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EDITORIAL AND PUBLICATION OFFICES.—

19, Rue Sete de Setembro.

RIO DE JANEIRO, DECEMBER 26th, 1894.

We are now well into the hot season, and so far as we can judge from cursory observation in passing through the streets, very little has been done thus far to put the city into a good sanitary condition. According to the regulations enforced against private parties for many years, no one is permitted to open the streets after the beginning of December, and yet paving and other improvements for account of the city government, are going on in many localities. If opening the streets is productive of fever then we are surely in for it, "yellow jack" is not at all likely to restrain himself simply because the offender is the municipal council. A principal reason why this disregard of an established regulation should be condemned, however, is the fact that officials generally consider themselves privileged to disregard the law. It should be established that it is the prime duty of an official to set a good example. If he fails, then he should be punished even more severely than the private citizen. The main point to be considered just now, however, is the circumstance that so many streets are torn up and littered with rubbish, and that so many others have been left unprepared and are full of holes and pools of stagnant water. In places the stench is nauseating. The sanitary authorities will certainly agree with us that such streets are standing sources of contagion. We rarely ever have a fever epidemic without seeing its worst manifestation in the Saude and Gamboa districts, where the streets are always dirty and the habitations always crowded and unclean. The cleansing of such places should invariably be carried into effect just before the hot season begins, and this should be followed by frequent and thorough inspection. Yellow fever will be banished from Rio de Janeiro only through the best sanitary precautions, and we shall not see the last of it until all these plague spots are eradicated. In São Paulo, we are glad to hear, the authorities are now trying to keep their city clean, and are succeeding. The streets are washed and swept in the early morning, sprinkled again before midday, and again before night. The result is that they are clean and fresh. Under such conditions it will be much easier to hold an epidemic in check, and it pays to spend money for such a purpose. It ought to be easy to keep Rio perfectly clean, for the hills render drainage easy and natural. The only difficult places are the lower levels, but these are much easier drained than New Orleans. The control of epidemics nowadays is largely a question of sanitary administration, a question of cleanliness, good water and wholesome food. An epidemic will hardly obtain a foothold where intelligent sanitation exists, and where the people observe the commonest laws of health.

We have again and again called attention to the serious position in which Brazil would be placed in case of a foreign war. Inasmuch as the country produces but a very small part of the articles of prime necessity consumed here, an active foreign fleet would be able to reduce the whole coast to a half-furnished condition in a very short time. A very large part of our local beef supply comes from the River Plate, as also a great part of the hay and maize required. For bread we are dependent upon the River Plate and the United States. Rice comes almost exclusively from India, the domestic product being too small for

notice. Pork in small quantities comes from up country, and a part of the cattle required for consumption along the coast. Fruit, *fariinha de mandioca*, sweet potatoes and some vegetables are of home production, but they fall so far short of local requirements that a large part of these articles is also brought in from abroad. Cured and canned meats of every description, potatoes, vegetables, fruits, butter, cheese, and a score of other necessary articles are staples in our import trade. Should a war occur and a hostile fleet appear on this coast, what would be the result? There would be scarcity and high prices at once. While we believe in unrestricted trade and the purchase of products where they can be produced cheapest, we consider it essential at the same time that a country should be independent of foreign producers in everything necessary to the support of life. Brazil will always be weak and dependent as long as her food supplies are sent in from foreign countries, and especially from the River Plate. For many articles she must of course depend chiefly upon other countries, but for beef, pork, cured meats, rice, maize, fruits and vegetables, potatoes, and many other articles, there is no need whatever to go beyond her own frontiers. Instead of seeking after inattainable things, instead of wasting time and money on palaces, art and amusements display, the people of this country should devote their best energies to the development of their own agricultural resources. There is both independence and wealth in such a course of action, and there is, besides, more true patriotism in it than in all the magnificent schemes we hear so much about.

An old friend, in whose opinion we have every confidence, writes us from São Paulo that there have been some cases of genuine *cholera morbus* in that city, possibly thirty to forty cases with a mortality of over fifty per cent. It has not spread much because the water supply is as yet uncontaminated. Sporadic cases are probably caused by infection being carried by the common housefly, by which its progress is slow and easily controlled. One of the prominent physicians of this city, Dr. Harrelburg, has also visited the infected localities in the Parahyba valley, and has made a microscopic examination of the excretions and viscera of patients, and he also declares the disease to be *cholera morbus*. Both of these gentlemen, who are competent authorities in such matters, have no apparent interest in deceiving the public as to the true character of the epidemic in question. We have doubted that the disease is cholera, because of the few deaths reported from the Parahyba valley and because similar visitations have been reported in other years, which were caused by some exceptional local condition. We have no wish to hide the truth from our readers, however, nor to conceal the existence of a very great danger. And, at the same time, we have the strongest desire to avoid creating alarm. It is best, however, that the plain truth should be told and that the situation should be calmly discussed. By this we do not mean that common cases of cholera should be magnified into *cholera morbus*, nor that the petty quarrels of ill-tempered physicians should be served up for every breakfast table. It is sufficient to know that sporadic cases have appeared at certain points, and that there is good reason for the belief that the disease is now under watchful control. In the great majority of places where the disease appeared, no new cases have been reported for some time. This encourages the belief that the sanitary authorities have been successful in isolating the disease. Should their efforts continue successful, we may soon expect to hear that cholera has entirely disappeared from the Parahyba valley. The great danger is the contamination of the Parahyba river, and we are glad to note that steps were promptly taken to prevent this. Equally rigorous measures should be taken to prevent the contamination of streams from which the water supply of this city is drawn. This done, the public need have little fear in regard to infection. Cholera is usually disseminated through rivers and other sources of water supply, and the germs must be taken into the body in order to develop. To prevent this, the people must give intelligent and prompt assistance to the sanitary authorities in the isolation of cases and in the destruction of everything

that can convey contagion, such as the excretions of patients and the clothing and bedding used by them. Chloride of lime should be used before the excretions of patients are thrown into drains, etc., so that the germs may be destroyed. All the food consumed should be thoroughly cooked, and all fluids likely to carry germs, such as water and milk, should be boiled. Care in all such things, a little patience and courage, and a cheerful obedience to sanitary regulations, and the peril will pass. There is no occasion for alarm, but it is no time for negligence and inattention to sanitary laws.

The question of exchange, like the gold premium in Argentina, is always in evidence. And it is to be noted that those who know least about it, are the very ones who talk most and who are constantly advancing remedies for the evil. Hardly a day passes that we do not hear a score of theories as to causes and remedies, and not infrequently do we hear threats of violence against the men who are supposed to be keeping exchange down. Now, we do not pretend to understand the subject in all its bearings, but there are a few general principles which we do understand and which will bear repeating every day in the year. In the first place, there is no special advantage in a low rate of exchange for the foreign banker and merchant, consequently they have no incentive for keeping it down. Their business will go on under high rates just as well, and perhaps with less risk. The men who are interested in a low rate of exchange, however, are the native planters, who receive much higher prices, nominally, at such times than when the rate is high. A depreciated currency is always a source of apparent prosperity with the agriculturist, for he receives more for his products while his expenses are not increased in the same proportion. In the second place, the question of exchange here in Brazil is very largely one of currency depreciation. In Argentina this depreciation is expressed by the premium on gold, as was the case in the United States, while exchange is restricted to the commercial and monetary transactions with foreign markets. There the rates of exchange vary but slightly, and are not subjects of speculation. As we have no transactions in gold to correspond with those of Buenos Aires, the bankers, importers and others having transactions with foreign markets, are compelled to buy or sell exchange, instead of buying or selling gold, when they wish to transform money from one medium to another. This complicates the transaction somewhat, because it conceals the prime cause of a so-called low rate of exchange, viz., the depreciation in the currency. Owing to the excessive and unauthorized issues of paper money during the past fifteen months and the imperfect information furnished by the treasury in regard to the matter, public confidence has been seriously undermined and depreciation has naturally followed. And just so long as this mistaken policy is continued, just so long will the currency remain depreciated. Other nations have done exactly what Brazil is now doing, and have paid the penalty for it, and it is not to be supposed that this country can escape the bitter consequences of so gross an infraction of universal law. This country has been incurring expenses far beyond its income and these adverse balances, whether expressed in loans or paper money, represent indebtedness. The current value of this indebtedness is represented, in its turn, by the confidence which the creditors have in the ability or intention of the nation to redeem its pledges. If the debt continues to increase, or the government shows no disposition to economise and pay its obligations, then the creditor's confidence diminishes and the value of the nation's pledges, whether in bonds or currency, begins to fall. This is just where we now stand. No one knows exactly what condition the national treasury is in; no one knows exactly how much currency has been issued, nor how much money has been spent, nor what the aggregate of new obligations may be, nor what balance of cash remains on hand. Once there was a large deposit of gold in the treasury for the redemption of bank notes, but no one believes that a penny of it now remains. We know that millions are being expended for unnecessary war material, which is an unproductive expenditure, and we know that political passions are still

active and are threatening new complications. There is no promise of economy in such a situation, nor of immediate settlement of difficulties, nor of payment of national obligations. Under such conditions there can be no improvement in public confidence, nor any real enhancement in the value of the currency. As long as this situation lasts, just so long will we have a low rate of exchange, and unless the political and financial condition of the country improves, we shall see much lower rates before we see better ones. The foreign banks have nothing to do with the matter, for they simply reflect situations created by others. Speculation may exert a temporary influence on the course of exchange, but it can have no permanent effect. The remedy is in the hands of the government and people, for the evil is one of their own creation.

AMONG the reasons given for the acquisition of the Western and Brazilian cables by the government, the principal ones are that they are about to fall into the hands of the Brazilian Submarine owners, and that to prevent this and to provide for a reduction in rates the government must take them over. It is a new thing for the Brazilian government to oppose a monopoly and to go out of its way to secure low tariffs for business men, but we let that pass. The question with which we have to deal is: will government administration give us a good service? Once assured of a quick and efficient service, it is of no consequence to the public whatever whether the cables belong to the Western and Brazilian company, the Brazilian Submarine company, or the Brazilian government. The business man simply wants speed, accuracy and responsibility. It is of course desirable to have the lowest rates possible, but he would much prefer to pay something extra for these three requisites, than to pay low rates for an unreliable service. If the service is defective and causes him loss, he has a remedy at hand where a private company is concerned, a recourse that will be denied him should the lines pass into the hands of the state. From what we know of state management of the land telegraph lines, and of the railways, we know to a certainty that the public can not expect either speed, accuracy, or responsibility from a government cable. The public will be sacrificed every time for the interest and convenience of the state and of the officials in charge. In case of domestic trouble, even of the slightest character, the lines will be closed, and there will be no remedy whatever. Business has become difficult enough, as it is, but it will be a hundred-fold worse when the state controls so necessary a means of communication as these cables. We are not at all interested in their amalgamation with the Submarine, for we believe that the public will derive no benefit, nor suffer prejudice, from such a change. The remedy for any abuse on the part of the Submarine, is always in the hands of the government. A good, effective and quick service over the state's land lines to Pernambuco and to the Uruguayan frontier, would at once give two alternate routes to the merchants of this city. If the government feels for us so keenly, why has it not done this long ago? It could very easily have compelled the Submarine to lower its tariff, if once it could have secured the confidence of the public. But, knowing that his message might be delayed, or mutilated, and that he could obtain no satisfaction in either case, the merchant of this city has preferred to pay the five shillings a word exacted by the Submarine. Instead of investing two millions sterling in these cables, let the government put a commercial wire north and south and employ a few first-class foreign operators for them, and then guarantee the same kind of a service given by the foreign cable companies. If the service thus given is good, the Submarine will very soon be compelled to lower its rate or lose the traffic. That the government has not done this is presumptive proof that its interest in lower rates for the public is purely fictitious. Then there is another consideration which should be taken into account. The business now sent over the Western and Brazilian cables from Uruguay, Argentina and Chile amounts to something over £50,000 a year, at a rough estimate. Let these cables pass under the control of the Brazilian government, and much of this business will at once be diverted to the

Galveston route, and should the service be defective and dilatory, nearly all of it will go the same way. The loss of the Platine and Chilian business may therefore be considered certain. Taking into account the limited earnings of the Western and Brazilian company, whose last dividend was only 2 per cent, the certain increase in working expenses under government management, and the loss in the through traffic which will be diverted to the Galveston route, the government will not find it expedient to reduce rates on its own behalf. It may force the Submarine to reduce its rate, but in the face of a diminished business this will not be done without a struggle. And then, should the projected Argentine cable via Ascension island be carried through, it is not improbable that that route may become the favored link in a great around-the-world line, and the present Submarine cable may relapse into a second-class local service.

RIVER PLATE ITEMS.

—Paraguay has established a sanitary station at Humaitá.

—The gold quotation in Buenos Aires on Monday was 366.

—The Argentine government has recently purchased nine batteries of Krupp guns.

—At Montevideo the quarantine against Argentina has been raised to eight days.

—A Buenos Aires telegram of the 24th announces the nomination of Sr. J. Hernandez as minister of public instruction.

—It would be interesting to know why the Argentines and Uruguayans have established sanitary cordons on the Rio Grande frontier.

—The Uruguayan minister at Buenos Aires, Duke of Linares, died there on the 18th inst. The funeral services occurred on the 20th inst.

—A Montevideo telegram of the 20th says that a report is current there that President Borda will be invited to arbitrate between the Brazilian government and the Rio Grande insurgents. The report is absurd.

—On the 22nd inst. the Uruguayan government declared five days quarantine against Argentine arrivals. Two more suspected cases are reported from Rosario, and the sanitary authorities have adopted vigorous measures to prevent an epidemic. The heat is still very oppressive.

—A Buenos Aires telegram of the 19th says that the reserves and national guard had been called to arms. We presume it is for the general encampment which was deferred some months ago. The *Pais* correspondent in Buenos Aires pretends not to know the cause, in order to give us a *susto* here in Rio.

—Liebig's Extract of Meat Company, Limited, notify that they have made an arrangement with the Kennerich company, their only important rival in the River Plate, whereby the latter cease making and selling extract, and place their factories in the Argentine republic at the disposal of the Liebig's Extract of Meat Company. —*Financial News*.

—The Paraguayan government has resolved to submit Brazilian arrivals to sanitary observation. The Brazilian secretary of legislation has protested. About twelve days must elapse before a passenger from Rio can reach Asuncion, it would seem that further "observation" might be waived. In quantities, however, there is generally found very little tension and common-sense.

—A Montevideo telegram of the 23rd announces the suspension of the steamship service between that city and Buenos Aires, because of the five days quarantine imposed. It is now said that the cases reported from Rosario and Colastiné were of Asiatic cholera. Great alarm is said to prevail throughout the province of Santa Fé, and vigorous measures have been taken to prevent the disease spreading.

—The "drop a penny in the slot" craze, has reached a highly-finished stage at the "Bar Automatico" in San Martin and Rivadavia. Entering the bar, twenty five cents purchases a token which you can drop into any one of the numerous arrangements round the room, and you are automatically served with a drink, home whiskey to plain soda and milk. The idea is ingenious, and will probably attract a number of persons anxious to see and taste each novelty that comes in their way. —*Times of Argentina*.

—The Buenos Aires board of health is not to be outdone, no matter what may occur. A telegram of the 23rd says that a suspected case of cholera had been discovered on the steamer *Marietta* from Cardiff, and that the vessel had been ordered out of Argentine waters. There is, of course, no cholera at Cardiff, and the probabilities are that the suspected case is nothing but some ordinary complaint. But, the average sanitary inspector at Buenos Aires is always discovering something pernicious, for it gives him a chance to exercise arbitrary authority. It is said that the *Marietta* will come here, in which case we trust that a little common humanity will be displayed at Ilha Grande.

—A telegram of the 23rd says that the Argentine government has resolved to suspend communication between Buenos Aires and the provinces of Santa Fé and Entre Ríos. The *Pais* correspondent says that the Rosario authorities are asking for medicines, nurses and ambulances, that the dead are being buried in lime outside the city, that the houses where cases occur are being burned, that great alarm prevails everywhere, and that the press has resolved to repress the news regarding cholera so as not to alarm the people. In Santa Fé new cases have appeared in the quarter of the 11th cavalry. In Rosario the disease made its appearance in the small cabins near the place where garbage is deposited. Official negligence would therefore seem to be at fault again.

—The salary of Paraguayan congressmen for extraordinary sessions, has been fixed at \$1,000. As gold figures at over 700 premium, this does not represent so large an amount after all.

—The well-known Buenos Aires land mark is gradually sinking. Gangs of men can now be seen on the old Custom House who have now partially demolished the tower which used to contain the small lamp serving as a lighthouse to the passing mariners in the "days of yore". The heads have been attacked and soon the old white building will be a thing of the past. —*Times of Argentina*.

—The Argentine budget committee estimates the national revenue for 1895 at \$31,723,000 gold and \$24,600,000 currency, against \$31,290,000 gold and \$26,230,000 currency for 1894. The gold decrease is due to a falling off in imports, while the currency increase is due to the income from the new sanitary works. The expenses for 1895 are estimated at \$15,027,000 gold and \$16,400,000 currency, against \$18,45,500 gold and \$16,523,000 currency for 1894. It is estimated that the surplus in gold will cover the deficit in currency (including the redemption of \$60,000,000 of paper money) at a gold premium of 28%.

—It is with great pleasure that we learn of the detention in quarantine at Flores, island of a number of goldsmiths, medal-decorators and members of the Uruguayan army, and the ex-minister of the Oriental Republic to Brazil, Señor Sazimano. A six days' experience of the discomforts, filth, and general unsanitary state of that delectable spot may tend to induce the Oriental government to take measures to renovate and cleanse the disgusting accommodation. But we are afraid that a daily supply of the best viands and liquors sent from Montevideo to these distinguished visitors to the Island will be in order and thus mollify their scruples. —*Times of Argentina*.

From *The Southern Cross*, Buenos Aires, Dec. 7.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

We regret to say that the political situation has not improved during the week. All the efforts of the President to fill up the vacant places in the cabinet have been unavailing, and the administration is carried on by three ministers: Messrs. Costa, Zapata and Terry. Meanwhile the hostile press is becoming more and more violent in its attacks on the government. According to the journalistic oracles we are verging on a state ofarchy and plunging headlong into chaos. Mitre will not accept office because his *dignidad de bronce* is such, he cannot act as salutarm in a camp where he might have been commander-in-chief. Pellegrini will not enter because he was not called in the beginning, and he is ruled by his party, the vacuous, who anxiously desire the fall of Saenz Peña. The ratheads are always looking for change as if it could improve their chances, and it is easily understood that between them and the President there will be very few clouds of sympathy. General Rosa is the real master of the position. We should not be surprised to learn that he foresaw the present dead-lock the day he signed the famous *acuerdo*. It is the story of the fox and the goat, Reynard was in great distress because he could not get out of the pit into which he had entered to think, but his companion the goat allowed him to ascend on his back and horns on the promise that he would lend assistance when once safe outside. We know the moral: Rosa saw a powerful party united against him and devised ways and means to break it up. He found a pliant in-trummet in General Mitre. The majority of the Congress is composed of time-servers and incapables. They are the same men or the same class of men who obeyed the thesis of Juarez, who were subdued by Pellegrini, and who quailed like school-girls before a threat of Del Valle. They cannot exist without a master, and Rosa is their god. Hence the cabinet crisis, hence the opposition to Saenz Peña. Yet if the old man would only display a little more vigour he would soon find that the opposition would melt away like yesterday's snow, and congressmen would become his obsequious worshippers.

WEST COAST ITEMS.

—The Valparaíso mineralogical exhibition has been prolonged to the end of January.

—A revolution has broken out in Honduras, and foreign naval vessels have had to land marines to protect life and property.

—Chili has declared quarantine against Argentine arrivals. The steamship companies are certainly having a bad time of it.

—The necessary steps are being taken for the foundation in Santiago of a bacteriological institute, on the lines of similar institutions which exist in the large cities of Europe. The idea has been received with much enthusiasm, and many handsome donations for carrying out the object in view have been made. —*Chilian Times*.

—The government has sold the cruiser *Emperador* for £220,000. She cost ten years ago £148,000, so that the sale is an advantageous one for the country. The purchaser is said to be Ecuador, which is supposed to mean Japan. It is reported that the government has already secured in England another vessel to replace the *Emperador*. —*Chilian Times*.

—The important and interesting section of the exhibition representing the marvellous mineral wealth of the state of Minas Geraes, Brazil, was officially opened on Tuesday afternoon in the presence of a select assemblage, including H. E. President Monteiro, who was received at the entrance by the Brazilian minister, and the Brazilian special commissioner. —*Chilian Times*, Nov. 24.

—The costamary annual bills relating to the strength of the land and sea forces, and to the period of troops being quartered in the place where Congress is sitting, and within a circumference of ten leagues of that place, have passed the Senate and been sent to the Deputies. The land forces in 1895 may not exceed 6,000 men of all arms, and the sea forces are to consist of six vessels of the first class; eight of the second; two transports; six dispatch boats; and ten torpedo boats; and the number of officers is limited to 416; and of men to 2,769. —*Chilian Times*, Nov. 24.

—The revolution in Peru is gradually gaining ground.

—The bill to throw the working of Chilean coal mines open to all the world, as is the case with other minerals, has been included in bills to be considered in the extraordinary session of the Chilean Congress.

—The Chilean national debt at the end of 1893 amounted to \$177,411,651, of which \$60,302,535.08 were owing at home and \$117,108,550 abroad. Besides this the municipal debts amount to about \$5,500,000, the service of which is met by the national government.

FLUSTRÉ, OR INDISCRETION?

The London *Financial News* of November 30th contains the following letter, which requires explanation. It may of course have been a hasty exhibition of bluster, something of the kind occasionally observed in the streets of Rio de Janeiro. On the other hand, it may have been an indiscreet revelation of some definite plan on the part of those who believe that a military dictatorship is the highest and best form of republican government. The letter is as follows:

THE FUTURE OF BRAZIL.

To the Editor of *The Financial News*.

—There are at present in this country several confidential agents of Marshal Peixoto, the ex-President of Brazil, and, judging from their conduct, they are not the most discreet persons in the world. One of them informed a friend in a West-end restaurant—and, owing to the pitch of his voice, informed the public also—that they might talk about Morato (the President in power), but that Morato would not be in power long. Peixoto was only having a rest and in February all would be ready for a *coup d'état*, which would send Morato to the right-about-face, and place Peixoto in power again with an impense force, armed to the teeth, at his back. Any amount of ammunition was being bought for this purpose; and when they had done with Peixoto's enemies they intended to bring the Argentine republic to its senses by an appeal to arms. This is all very interesting to the people who are concerned, and will, perhaps, enable them to adopt such measures as will serve to keep the ex-Dictator in his proper place—it, indeed, has any such belligerent intention as are attributed to him. —Yours truly,

ECHO.

London, November 28.

AN INTERESTING GUN TRIAL.

On Tuesday last His Excellency the Minister of War attended some very important experiments with field guns at Realengo. A quick firing gun of 8.4 centimetres submitted by Sir W. G. Armstrong, Mitchell & Co., Limited, formed the most interesting feature of the trials. This gun is designed to use Cordite, the new smokeless explosive, and fires a shot weighing 7 kilos. 25 rounds were fired, the practice against a target being remarkably good. For rapid 6 rounds were fired in 65 seconds, 3 men only working the gun and of these 2 were quite strangers to it. One novelty in connection with this gun is a system of anchoring it so that it shall not run back after each discharge. It is only by means of such system, that rapid firing can be realized. Although very powerful the gun itself weighs only 350 lbs., the entire equipment weighing 1,700 kilos, when the limber is loaded with 36 rounds of ammunition. His Ex. General Luz, president of the "Comissão Técnica," superintended the trials, and Commander E. W. Lloyd represented the firm of Sir W. G. Armstrong, Mitchell & Co.

From *The Financial News*, Nov. 30.

INCOME-TAX ON PROFITS EARNED ABROAD.

Yesterday, before Mr. Justice Vaughan Williams and Mr. Justice Wright, sitting as a Divisional Court of the Queen's Bench to hear revenue appeals, the case was heard of the Andrew Hotel Company, Limited, appellants, and Andrews (surveyor of taxes) respondent. The question raised was as to the liability of an English company owning an hotel in Denver to pay income-tax upon profits earned by it. The court decided that the profit could be realized. Although very powerful the gun itself weighs only 350 lbs., the entire equipment weighing 1,700 kilos, when the limber is loaded with 36 rounds of ammunition. His Ex. General Luz, president of the "Comissão Técnica," superintended the trials, and Commander E. W. Lloyd represented the firm of Sir W. G. Armstrong, Mitchell & Co.

In Santos a tax of five tenths of a real per kilo is imposed on coffee for the erection of a monument to Braz Cubas—a personage almost wholly unknown to the majority. There can be no objection to the erection of this monument, providing the expense is borne by voluntary subscriptions, but it is an imposition and an abuse of authority to levy a tax on any person or product for such a purpose.

An *aferes* and some soldiers of the line attempted to force their way into a private house in Bahia on the night of the 7th inst., but were prevented by the closed doors and windows. There were many guests in the house at the time, and considerable alarm prevailed. Two men, frightened by the report that the soldiers had broken in, jumped from the windows and were badly injured.

In the morning the military commandant of the district sent a guard and arrested the disorderly aferes.

—A few days ago the superior tribunal of Rio Grande annulled the processes presented to the state courts against Pacífico Tavares, Escobar and others, and ordered their release. The "law and order" party thereupon began protesting and appealing, and insisted upon a re-hearing of the case. Overcome by the clamor, the court finally consented, and then decided the case against Tavares. There's a heap of justice in Rio Grande, and don't you forget it! If it is not extracted in the first boiling, it surely will be in the second, or third!

The *Pais* of this morning says that there have been 43 cases of cholera at Barra do Pirahy up to the 24th, of which 22 died. On the plantation of Col. Gentil de Castro, at S. Carlos do Pirahy, S. Paulo, there have occurred 45 cases with 18 deaths. Up to the 24th inst. there have occurred, according to the *Pais*, a total of 344 cases, with 61 deaths. It must be remembered, however, that the *Pais* is carrying on a hot argument in defense of its conduct in shouting "cholera" every time a person falls ill with a pain in his stomach.

A letter from Goyaz to the *Jornal do Comércio* says that in October the exploitation of cattle to the Rio market was active, but when the news came of a contract for the importation of cattle from the River Plate the stock-raisers lost all interest in the business. They feel that the protection of a national industry has been betrayed. The *Jornal* should tell the good people of Goyaz that the industry of maintaining life is quite as important as that of stock-raising, and that the people down here are entitled to buy their beef at the lowest prices.

PROVINCIAL NOTES

—The *Azul Bahia* left Bahia for this port on the 21st inst.

—The plans for the new lazaretto at Panamá, Perú, have been approved.

—The quarrel over election returns in Bahia is still in progress. Why not try a new election?

—The city of Pará has authorized various important public works, including surveys for a system of drainage.

—It is said that Baixo do Lucena will be a candidate for the vacancy in the Chamber of Deputies occasioned by the acceptance of a cabinet position by Deputy Gonçalves Ferreira.

—News was received here on the 18th that a fire had broken out on the British bark *James Hart*, for some time stranded near Barra Seca, Espírito Santo. The bark was loaded with coal.

—Some military officers have been arrested for sedition at Santa Helena, in the state of Maranhão. The process has been confirmed by the superior tribunal of the state. What they really did, however, is not known.

—On the 12th inst. a detachment of infantry landed in Victoria from the steamer *Manso*. They at once began to provoke the police, and a conflict ensued, in which several men were injured. Finally the insolent soldiers were compelled to return on board.

—The political campaign in Paraná is progressing actively, and the opposition is keeping the field in spite of the violence of the government party. The rule of Vicente Machado in the state of Paraná has been so oppressive and demoralizing that no one can wish him success.

—Our readers abroad, particularly shipping men, will be interested to know that the name of the city and port of Desterro, in Santa Catharina, was changed some months ago to the absurd designation of "Florianópolis." It is needless to add, perhaps, that the old name will continue to be used for some time yet.

—It is said that an autograph letter from Napoleon I, dated 1812, was found enclosed in a lucid worn by Mme. Amelie Bonaparte, who died in Porto Alegre a short time since at the age of 90 years. The letter shows that the lady in question was the recipient of Napoleon's tender attentions in her youth.

—The inauguration of fort Araçatuba at the southern entrance to the bay of Santa Catharina, occurred on the 10th inst. The fort is armed with three 70-lb. Whitworth guns, two 32-lb. Whitworths, two 7½ Krupps, one Hitchcock and one Nordenfelt. The fort is connected with the city and other forts by a submarine cable.

—The Rio Grande commercial association has been compelled to telegraph to the minister of finance against the wretched administration of the custom-house at that port. A mania is now raging there for the detection of inaccuracies in the description of goods in order to find excuses for the imposition of fines. In this the grossest abuses are practised.

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—There were 2,053 immigrants in the hospital at S. Paulo on the 21st.

The *Jornal* is informed that the state of Rio de Janeiro has purchased sites on one of the principal streets of Petrópolis for public edifices.

—There were 69 deaths in Amparo, São Paulo, in the month of November. The births numbered 100, and the marriages 24. The population of the town and district is estimated at 42,000.

—The sanitary report from Barra do Piahy, yesterday, where the worst cases of epidemic have appeared, are to the effect that one new case was reported, one death occurred, and six cases were under treatment.

—The *Jornal* of the 25th publishes the S. Paulo vital statistics for November in which the total number of deaths for the month is given as 439, an average of 14.63 a day. This is equivalent to 5,340 a year, or at the rate of 44.5 per thousand, estimating the population at 120,000.

—The last sanitary *bulletin* from São Paulo treats of the epidemic which is raging in the states of Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo, and says that up to the day of publication (not given) the number of cases received at the hospital in S. Paulo is 38. Of these 16 were cured, to died and 12 were under treatment.

—During the month of November there were 106 deaths in Santos, against 96 in the preceding month. There was one death from yellow fever. The births numbered 46 and the marriages 12. We do not know at what the population is estimated, but the above returns indicate a death rate of 43 per thousand for a population of 30,000.

LOCAL NOTES

—There were 2,800 immigrants in quarantine at Ilha Grande on the 18th inst.

—The new Brazilian minister to Buenos Aires, Dr. Fernando Alhol, left for that capital on Sunday last.

—The discharge of live stock from the River Plate for this market is now made outside the Sugar Loaf.

—The new minister from Austria-Hungary, Mr. E. de Schmidt de Tavares was formally received by President Moros on the 20th inst.

—It is said that General Moniz will leave for Rio Grande early next month. The Constitutists in Porto Alegre are organizing a public reception in his honor.

—It is reported that the Argentine minister at this capital, Dr. García Merón, has sent in his resignation. A subsequent report says that it has not been accepted.

—The sessions of Congress came to an end at 1 p. m. on the 20th, the closing ceremonies occurring at the Senate. The Deputies had dispersed some time previously.

—It is said that an expense entry in the books of the Central railway reads, "1 palmoario (terfe), 20,000." The *Jornal* asks if the instrument of punishment was required for the celebrated prison van "No. 136 V."

—On the 10th the President returned the bill, placing certain judges on the waiting list, to the Senate with his veto. He considers the bill unconstitutional, as the constitution provides for the judges affected by the judicial reorganization.

—The treaty of friendship, commerce and navigation, celebrated in 1891 between the representatives of Brazil and Peru in this capital, was formally ratified by the Peruvian Congress on October 27th last. The ratifications are to be exchanged in Lima.

—The municipal council has authorized the prefect to sign a contract with Godofredo Travassos and Eugénio Campagnac for the construction of a boulevard from the Campo Sant'Ana, on the side adjoining the railway station, to the Meyer station, Engenho Novo.

—On the 15th inst. the police were fortunate enough to capture two well-known burglars, authors of a robbery in a hat store on the Largo S. Francisco de Paula a short time ago. They also discovered the deposit and hiding place of the thieves, No. 1 Ladeira Vilal de Neves, where a large number of the missing hats were found.

—It is to be noted that Senator Quintino Bocayuva did not return to the Senate after the exposure of his conduct on the "general indemnity" bill, by Senator Oliveira on the 17th inst. He had accused the president of the Senate with the suppression of the bill, when in fact he had not been considered in committee because Senator Bocayuva had not convened the committee. He apparently wished to have the bill "snaked" through without discussion, either in committee or in the Senate. Failing in this, he tried to throw the blame on the president of the Senate. As soon as Congress adjourned, however, Senator Bocayuva began discussing the question in the *Páiz*.

—The Supreme Tribunal Federal has decided that no state has a right to enact a law of libel different from what is provided in the penal code of the union. The decision is given on an appeal from a sentence pronounced in the state of Pará, by virtue of a state law, in a case for libel instituted against Dr. Elias Firmino de Souza Martins by the governor of that state. The sentence was seven months imprisonment and 600 fine. As the state law is in violation of the provisions of the penal code, the court declares it unconstitutional, consequently the sentence rendered is void.

—There is evidently something wrong in the Brazilian legislation in Montevideo. Advice was given at the departure of thirty odd miscreants in the coasting steamer *Destino*. These young men had taken part in the naval revolt, and had now presented themselves at the legation to solicit permission to return home. In view of this advice, preparations were made by the minister of marine to arrest the miscreants on arrival. On the 19th, at 10 p. m., a telegram was sent to the *Jornal do Commercio* to the effect that no miscreant has embarked for Rio on the *Destino*. Surely the legation there must be trying to make game of the minister of marine—and the *Páiz*,

—The Norwegian cruiser *Eidsvold* left this port for Santos on the 21st.

—The Argentine consul at this port, Sr. Joaquim Moreira, has been recalled.

—The Vice-President, Dr. Victorino Pereira, left for Bahia on the 23rd.

—It is said that the 38th battalion of infantry will be sent to Rio Grande do Sul.

—Ministers Monteiro and Abbott left for their posts at Montevideo and Buenos Aires on the 23rd.

—The authorities are now sending immigrants up country over the Central railway.

—Owing to quarantine the *NM* did not arrive here until the 24th. She left the same day for England.

—A large number of recruits from the north have been sent to Rio Grande, to join the battalions there.

—The Argentine minister of foreign affairs telegraphs that the recent orders respecting the national guard, treat of organization, not of mobilization.

—It is announced that Dr. Cunha complete report on the site for a new federal capital, located on the table-lands of Goiás, will soon be ready for presentation to the government.

—Our readers will be interested to know that Dr. Demostenes Lobo, director-general of the postoffice, left for Europe on the 24th, on a leave of absence. He needs a rest—and so do we!

—We regret to hear that Sr. Demostenes has lost the gold watch which was stopped in the postoffice in 1892 as contraband. Perhaps he may eventually find it. Such things do happen, you know!

—We are delighted to hear that our old friend Angelo Agostini is about to publish a new illustrated paper. After an absence of two years in Europe, his hand ought to be in fine condition for effective work.

—We have again and again called attention to the fatal results attending the treatment of even trifling surgical cases at the Misericórdia hospital. Is it not with the trouble to have a matter of this character investigated?

—On the 22nd the sanitary inspector overhauled a shipment of eggs just arrived from Porto Alegre, which he declared to be spoiled. There were 84 boxes containing 3,780 dozen, in the shipment, all of which were condemned.

—The ex-director of the Central railway, Col. Vespaiano, is making the mistake of threatening his critics. When the colonel is able to locate a person van at the head of the Ovazza, then his threats will be considered seriously.

—The official Argentine view of the case is to the effect that an epidemic whatever exists at Rosario. Other advises, however, are in the effect that new cases are appearing, and that they are suspicious enough to require isolation and special treatment.

—The New York *World* of November 25th publishes the following telegram:

"Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Nov. 24.—President Moros is exerting all his influence to prevent the presentation in Congress of charges against ex-President Peixoto."

—The *Páiz* this morning was short of its telegrams because the Western and Brazilian operators were enjoying a holiday yesterday. Of course our colleague is righteously indignant about it, and thinks that due notice should have been given. Giving the men a day off on Christmas is an old custom with the Western and Brazilian, as the *Páiz* should have known.

—The three torpedo cruisers recently ordered by the government in Germany, are to be 79.30 metres in length, 9.40 metres beam and 3.70 metres draught in service. They are to be built of steel and capable of a speed of 22 knots under full pressure. They are to have twin screws, driven by separate engines. Each cruiser will carry three torpedo tubes, two fore and aft all guns 10.5 centimetres calibre, six rapid-firing guns of 5.7 centimetres calibre and four machine guns.

—According to the new army bill, which was voted just before Congress adjourned, the total effective land force will consist of the officers of different classes and grades, the students of the military schools, consisting of 1200 men for the regular schools and 400 men for the schools for non-commissioned officers, and 25,120 privates in the several branches of the service. This gives Brazil a larger regular army than the United States.

—The two ironclads ordered by the last government from the Forges et Chantiers company, of La Seyne, near Toulon, are to be of the following dimensions and armament: length 267.2 feet, breadth 46 feet 11 inches, displacement 4,162 tons, drawing 13 feet 2 inches. The vessels will have a speed of 13 knots with an engine force of 2650 horse power. They are to have two turrets each, and will carry four 9.4 inch guns, four 4.7 inch rapid-firing guns, two 5.9 inch rifled howitzers, two 3-inch rapid-firing guns, four 2.24 inch idem, and two revolving guns of one cent. calibre. Both ironclads will also be provided with torpedo tubes. The plans were furnished by Sr. Lagaeus, the director of the works.

—The *Jornal* of the 19th publishes an account of an investigation into an alleged case of cruelty, in which a soldier of the 1st artillery, national guard, was the victim. This soldier died and was buried in the S. João Baptista cemetery. It was then reported to the police that he had died from the whippings received, and the chief ordered an investigation. The commandant of the national guard also ordered an investigation. As might have been expected, these investigations contradicted each other flatly, the latter affirming that the soldier had never been whipped. To settle this dispute, the exhumation of the body was ordered, which was effected five days after burial, on the 25th ult., when it was found that the man had actually died from the brutal whippings received.

—There is evidently something wrong in the Brazilian legislation in Montevideo. Advice was given at the departure of thirty odd miscreants in the coasting steamer *Destino*. These young men had taken part in the naval revolt, and had now presented themselves at the legation to solicit permission to return home. In view of this advice, preparations were made by the minister of marine to arrest the miscreants on arrival. On the 19th, at 10 p. m., a telegram was sent to the *Jornal do Commercio* to the effect that no miscreant has embarked for Rio on the *Destino*. Surely the legation there must be trying to make game of the minister of marine—and the *Páiz*,

—There was one case of yellow fever reported on the 20th inst.

—The sessions of Congress were formally closed on the 20th inst.

—The steamer *Esperança* was delivered over to her owners on the 20th inst.

—The general receipts budget was sanctioned by the President on the 20th inst.

—Complaints have been made by the French legation against the telegraph service at Petrópolis.

—The *Jornal* of yesterday says that an accord has been arranged between the minister of foreign affairs and the Italian chargé.

—It is said that Coronel Lafitte, who has been in retirement since the overthrow of the monarch, is now completing a work on the law of nations.

—It is stated that the Brazilian government has asked the French government for the extradition of Raúl de Carvalho, implicated in the affairs of the *Gloria*.

—The wretched condition of Rio Gonçalves Dias, which is one of the most frequented thoroughfares of the city, ought to convince the city authorities that the delay in finishing improvements is becoming a serious imposition upon the public.

—The *Azul* is publishing accounts of the atrocities committed during and after the revolt in this port. It is incredible that such savagery could exist among men claiming to be civilised! It could like a record of the doings of the unashamed Turk.

—One of the official announcements of the past week states that the minister of marine declines the offer of Messrs. "Flint & Co." to raise the monitor *Tarifa*, which was sunk in this harbor. We presume that Messrs. Flint & Co. is the firm imposter.

—The military detachment sent up to Barra do Piraí to maintain a sanitary cordon showed its appreciation of the service a few days since by issuing a special train and leaving the place for Parahyba do Sul. Had a group of cut-throats been present, no penalties would have been too severe for them.

—The residents of the Glória parish are talking about the organization of a body of private night watchmen because of the frequent burglaries occurring there. It is not at all complimentary to the easily police force of this city that citizens should be compelled to maintain private watchmen for the protection of property.

—There were 458 deaths in this city during the first half of December, a decrease of 15 from the preceding half month. This is a very satisfactory result, showing that the death rate is now exceptionally low. There were 2 deaths from yellow fever, 6 from smallpox, 3 from hæmorrhage, 1 from diphtheria, 2 from typhoid fever and 15 from pneumonia.

—Burglaries are now of nightly occurrence, and the thieves usually get away safely with their spoils. As the police are unable to do anything, their burglar must use greater precautions in securing their doors and windows, and a little more severity in their treatment of the criminals. The infliction of a few lashes, or an occasional extra, might not be out of place.

—An unhappy passenger arrived here on the 21st from some place up country without the required sanitary passport. He was at once removed to the disinfection station where he was fumigated, and his clothes rigorously disinfected. He was then placed in quarantine for five days. If he survives all this, he will have free pratique and will be allowed to come into town for a square meal.

—The coasting steamer *Destino* arrived here on the 25th and brought five sailors who had been connected with the revolt. They were arrested by a launch sent from the *República*. No misfortune were found on board. The *Páiz* intimates that the expected old shipmen may have already arrived and are now concealed. Our never-satisfied colleague would have them routed out and arrested.

—There was a serious fire last evening, soon after 8 o'clock, at the corner of Rua General Camara and Visconde de Itaboráhy, in the building occupied by the Royal Mail agency. The lower floor was occupied as a depot by Srs. Costa Simões & Co., and is said to have had inflammable materials. The building and contents were greatly damaged. The Royal Mail offices had been removed to this building only a few weeks since.

—The two principal steamship companies operating between German ports and the United States have advised ticket agents not to sell passage tickets to the following classes of persons: paupers, deaf and dumb persons, persons under contract, assisted emigrants, anarchists, and persons accused of crime within a year. These restricted classes are not admitted into the United States, and this action of the companies is designed to avoid the expenses of returning the rejected passengers to Europe.

—On the 19th a confidence man went to a poor black woman with the story that her husband had been arrested, but that for the sum of 100\$ he could be liberated. The woman, in great distress, burst out to raise the money among her friends, and then started out with the knife to release her husband. The pretended agent, however, succeeded in disappearing with the money in his possession. Something ought to be done to punish these knaves as they deserve.

—The *Gazeta* of the 24th says that a large number of passengers have arrived by railway from São Paulo during the last few days, and have not been required to submit to disinfection, or fumigation. Only the baggage and mails have been sent to the disinfecting station. It reminds us of the absurd ideas in vogue at the River Plate quarantine station, where great rigor is shown in the disinfection of one's clothes, even to his clean linen, but where the clothing he is wearing is entirely overlooked. And yet, if there is any contamination about one's clothing, it is most likely to be found in the garments in actual use.

—The demolition of that phenomenally ugly structure in the Largo da Lapa was begun on Sunday.

—An extraordinary and altogether inexplicable movement has set in over in Italy. They are reducing the number of generals.

—It is said that the 1st cavalry, now in Paraná, is to be recalled to this city. Our garrison does not seem to be large enough.

—The government has appointed Gen. Roberto Ferreira to the command of the 1st military district (Paraná), Gen. Frederico Sabó to that of the 3d district (Bahia), Col. Pires Ferreira to that of the 4th district (S. Paulo) and Gen. Bacellar to that of the 7th district (Mato Grosso). Gen. Solon was under arrest during a great part of the revolt.

—The *Páiz* is rendering a great service to his country by the publication of documents connected with the revolutionary government of Santa Catharina. We trust that our colleague will extend the good work to the publication of the documents on the other side also, particularly the orders sent south for the summary execution of prisoners. History to be written with anything must be impartial and complete.

—While the sanitary inspector is occupied in destroying fruits, etc., considered unfit for food, would it not be well to look into the artificial wines, liquors, mineral waters, etc., which are manufactured here. We have known cases of illness occurring after drinking the spurious mineral waters sold with counterfeit labels, as the imported article. It is not only an immoral and illegal traffic, but is exceedingly dangerous to health.

—In his post-mortem defence of his attack on the Senate for an alleged suppression of the full granting of the amnesty to Floriano Peixoto for his acts in suppressing the recent insurrection, Senator Quintino Bocayuva says: "The press is free to criticize policies and this includes not only every corporation and every functionary, but also (what is more) every public power." That is good republican doctrine, Quintino, but for how long a time has this been the case? And why did you not talk like this one year ago?

—If Pedro do Oliveira does not take the hint, then it must be because it is not convenient to do so. According to the *Páiz* of the 22nd, he sent around a half dozen bottles of wine to the author of the article intitled "Páiz contra si." The wine was delivered to the happy editor, of course, but the others announced that the idea espoused in that article are not his alone, for they belong equally to the whole staff. Now, Pedro, nothing less than a half dozen for each editor will suffice! That is exactly "where we are going," Pedro, and don't you forget it!

RAILROAD NOTES

—Passenger traffic with São Paulo over the Central line was resumed on the 19th.

—The September receipts of the Paulo Afonso railway were 5,481\$87, and the expenses 12,912\$252, showing a deficit of 7,430\$765.

—Why is it that the monthly receipts and expenditures of the Central railway are not published, the same as with other railways?

—It is said that construction is going forward rapidly on the Sapucaí line. The track-laying on the first section reached Pouso Alegre on the 24th inst.

—The August receipts of the Solâr railway amounted to 14,073\$750, and the expenses 19,184\$803, showing a deficit of 5,110\$343. This is another government railway.

—The S. Paulo Railway Co. has re-opened negotiations for government authorization to lay a second track between Santos and Jundiahy. It is known that the company will not now insist on a monopoly of the port of Santos.

—Further information in regard to the situation at the station of Estreito Kms. fully confirms the report of the station master and the military detachment there. Their treatment of residents has been brutal and illegal in every respect. A prompt example should be made of these scoundrels.

—The September receipts of the Mogiçaba rail way amounted to 1,300\$438\$39, and the expenditures to 549\$152\$35, leaving a net balance of 751\$398\$39. For the quarter ending September 30th the receipts were 3,865\$333\$480, and the expenses 3,728\$237\$025, showing a surplus of 2,077\$068\$455.

—A commission of eight residents of Linhares called on the minister of justice of the state of Rio de Janeiro, in Petrópolis, on the 19th to complain of the Central railway station master at that place. This man, it would seem, has a grudge, similar to the celebrated Mr. 130 of the Central station in this city, where he is accustomed to persecute any one who bears his displeasure. He has a force of federal soldiers, and other employees, to assist him. He of course defies the local police authorities and regards his own private pleasure in arresting and imprisoning of offenders. It is said that still another man exists at Porto Novo da Chuila. The new director of the Central Railway will not permit the further continuation of these abuses.

—It is announced by cable that the Great Northern Railway of Brazil Co., Linhares has placed its claim against Brazil in the hands of the British government. The company claims the sum of £297,105 as indemnity, expenses and loss of profits for the abrogation of two concessions granted by the province of Paraíba in 1882 to Henrique Sá and Reid, Brown & Co. for a railway from Timbuktú to Goyaná, and another from Olaria to Itaparica. These concessions were pre-empted, it is claimed, by the concession from the national government to the Great Western Company for a branch from Nazaré to Timbuktú. It is an old and a complicated one. The claimants ask £155,000 on the purchase of concessions, surveys, etc., £137,100 for expenses and loss of profits from the date of the contracts, and £25,000 for expenses of administration for a period of ten years.

A project for a circular elevated railway has been presented to the municipality of S. Paulo.

The Newark Fire Insurance Co., for many years transacting business in this city, has decided to close its office here.

The transportation of cattle over the Central hue between Criterio and Santa Cruz, has been suspended.

The *Direito Oficial* of the 26th inst. publishes the new schedule of rates authorized on the Magdalena by an executive decree of 5th November last.

The Moçambique company will receive 67,778\$021 for account of guaranteed interest for the second half of 1892, on the capital employed in the extension from Japura to Catalão.

During the first half of the year, the Porto Alegre and Uruguaiana railway received amounted to 1,089,503\$068, and its expenditures to 804,300\$860, showing a surplus of 285,122\$712.

The President has signed the legislative act increasing the salaries paid to Central railway employees. This concession should be acknowledged by a much improved service.

By a decree of the 18th inst. the government formally approves the surveys of the projected branch of the Porto Alegre and Uruguaiana line, running from the station of Sayacu to Sant' Anna do Livramento.

On the 20th 39 cattle cars passed Barra do Pirá for Santa Cruz. And yet, in the 21st there was a great scarcity of fresh beef in the city! Is there not something wrong in the administration of the Santa Cruz abattoir?

On the 21st the sanitary inspector at Ouro Preto telegraphed that he had discovered brands in the importation of foreign wines as native, to secure that reduction in freights. He also destroyed a great quantity of the native product, manufactured at three well known distilleries.

Under date of the 14th inst. the President asked Congress for a supplementary credit of 3,341,816\$713 to cover a deficit in the item "guaranteed railways." According to the exposition made the following amounts are due this year on account of interest guarantees:

Interest, payable in London... 9,105,123\$158
Ibidem in Brazil... 3,595,555\$455

Among the new industries imported into S. Paulo, Brazil, is a factory of silk and cotton ribbons for caps, established by MM. Buitoni and Ratto in the environs of that city. The number of looms will amount before long, it is said, to 21, and it will be possible to produce 8,000 to 10,000 metres of ribbon per diem. The loans come from Italy. The number of bands, principally Italian, is small.—*The Textile Worker*.

A telegram from S. Paulo announcing the sale of the Companhia Central Paulista, and its into an error in the last issue which we hasten to correct. We understand from this brief telegram that the Paulista railway had sold to Messrs. Prado Chaves & Co., which is not true. The "Central Paulista" company happens to be a commercial association dealing largely in coffee, and it was this business which had been sold. No change has been made in the Paulista railway company.

The administration of the S. Christovam company should take steps at once to improve its personnel. On the morning of the 24th, about half past two o'clock, their employés at the Mangue stables went so far as to attack a crowded tramcar with sticks and stones. The passengers may have been troublesome and excent, but this must be expected from people in overcrowded trams. The company should furnish trams enough for all, and should guarantee good treatment to the humblest.

COFFEE NOTES

The export of coffee from India in the year 1893-94 amounted to a value of 20,021,710 pesos.

COFFEE IN NORTH BORNEO.

A North Borneo correspondent of the Ceylon *Observer*, writes as follows: Under date of Sept. 27th, of the superior advantages of that new country for coffee production:

In Africa, according to one of your correspondents, trees three years old are 5½ feet high with a splendid crop of cherries rapidly maturing; trees here usually attain the height of about 7 feet when two years old and are then lopped back. When 18 months old they show a good deal of blossom every fortnight or three weeks, and at from 26 to 28 months of age their branches are heavy with fruit of which some is then beginning to ripen.

With regard to the heavy profits quoted from Peru I take it that the calculation that it costs only 125 to produce 100 lb. of clean coffee refers to the actual cost of picking, pulping, washing and carriage without allowing anything for planting and rearing; if this is the case we can certainly do better here, parchment coffee being delivered in bags at \$5 per picul (33½ lb.) where it is readily saleable at more than five times as much.

That there is nothing to be wondered at in this is apparent when the price of our labour is compared with that in Peru where "China labourers cost about 0.70, (about 15 cent.) with food." Here I am paying from .27 to .30 cents for practised Malay labour and 27 cents in Chinese. The labourers feel themselves, live in their own houses and find most of their tools except bars.

The coffee estates in this district are all within a comparatively few miles of the Sampanian wharf and there is good water communication with all of them, whereas both in Peru and Africa the estates are various distances up country I understand.

I must take exception to the editorial dictum that trees should be stripped rather than allow them to mature fruit before they are three years old; not to speak of the expense of the extra labour required to strip every tree every month for something like a year. It is even a question

whether they would not be more damaged than benefited by this treatment. Although the amount of oven shriveling is usually positively alarming, the cherry matures so slowly that there is in reality no particular strain on the trees.

In addition to Liberian coffee which is now a settled cultivation, we are experimenting on a small scale with cacao which so far promises very well, and are also getting on with manila hemp, cotton and coconuts."

BLENDED COFFEES.

The day seems to have gone by for selling coffee just as imported. Those who have experimented the most on the different kinds, and who should be informed on such subjects, fail to obtain the best results, that different varieties of coffee should be blended together. The physiology of blending is that certain coffees excel in flavor, while others excel in strength; and to produce the best possible results, the proportions of each kind to be used should be arranged so that, first, the strong coffee does not predominate over those of fine flavor, and second, that the fine flavored coffees are not used so that the strength of the mixture is not up to standard; for the perfection of blended coffee is one which is not only palatable, but also economical.—*American Gover-*

The Pororoca, of São Paulo, says that its arrivals from Ribeirão Preto in regard to the next coffee crop, are not very encouraging. The great heat of the past fortnight has caused much frost to drop off, causing enormous prejudices. On one plantation it was estimated that two thirds of the fruit had been lost in this manner. The extravagance of this estimate, we fear, discounts the information sent in.

BUSINESS NOTES

Tenders are to be invited for supplying the Central railway with coal during the coming year.

The Rio de Janeiro Flour Mills paid a dividend of 7½ per share for the year ended August 31st last.

The Companhia Frigorífica has petitioned for the restitution of its steamers, which are still in the possession of the government.

We are indebted to Messrs. Hogg & Murly for a sample of the celebrated "J. R. D." Scotch whiskey, of which they are the agents in this city.

The customs inspector at Bahia has imposed a fine of 20,873\$ on the parties detected in slipping 750 bags of coffee without the legal documents on November 23rd last.

Among the departures for Europe, per *Alvári*, on the 24th, was Mr. R. J. Reidy, representative of the Western and Brazilian Telegraph Co. During his absence the company will be represented by Mr. D. McNeill.

It was decided by the authorities on the 19th that henceforward all live cattle from the River Plate must be disembarked outside the harbor. It would seem more convenient to have the cattle disembarked as near Santa Cruz as possible.

The inspector of customs has issued orders for the employment of a greater number of the hydraulic cranes in the custom-house basin, in order to expedite the discharge of lighters. The basin is becoming crowded with lighters, and another "block" in the discharge of merchandise is threatened.

This is how it is done. A passenger arriving here a few days ago, had a trunk broken into in the custom-house and robbed of all its contents. He went to the *conferente* to complain and was fined 40\$. He thus loses his effects and 40\$ in cash—all of which is exactly in accordance with the regulations!

Now that hot weather has come, many will want to know how to obtain cooling drinks and mixtures. If they desire to know the best method yet discovered, they should go and see the "Fack Frost Freezer" at Alves Nogueira & Co.'s establishment in the Rua do Ouvidor. Making ice cream is not only easy, but is a pleasure with this machine.

The minister of industry has published an edict calling for tenders for the steamship service of the Amazon and its tributaries. There are nine separate lines to be covered, and the conditions are such that only citizens can safely tender. The ships must bear under the national flag, subject to disqualification by the government, and to many conditions and requirements, which might cripple, or even ruin a foreign company.

The Chagan's Réunion company announces the intended construction of two more steamers of the *Cavadoras* type for its South American service. They will have a length of 102 metres, and carrying capacity for 55,000 bags of coffee. They are to be called the *Cavadoras* and the *Campos*. The last named is the same as a German steamer running on this coast, which is a master of steamer racing, as this duplication of names is sometimes confusing.

We take much pleasure in calling attention to the advertisement of the Curtice Brothers Co., which appears in another place. This establishment enjoys a very high reputation in the United States, for the excellent quality and packing of its goods, and we are glad to see that this reputation has been recognized in this market. It is not only one of the largest packing establishments in the United States, but it is located in one of the best fruit districts in that country. We know from personal experience of the quality of the fruits and vegetables of Western New York, and we feel confident that nothing better can be found.

FINANCIAL NOTES

—Many of the customs officials of this port have been, on duty at other ports, the minister of finance has issued orders for their prompt return here.

The November receipts of the Pará emoluments were 1,126,731\$75, against 1,047,384\$150 in the same month of last year. In the same month the state *recebedoria* collected 1,128,104\$03, against 1,130,821\$401 last year.

—A supplementary credit of 466,500\$ has been opened for the pay of retired officers and men in the police force.

—A supplementary credit of 230,000\$ has been opened in the department of foreign affairs for mileage and other expenditures abroad.

—The municipality has secured a temporary loan from the Banco da Republica of 5,000,000\$ at 6 per cent for a period of four or five months.

—The Pará municipal budget for next year estimates the receipts to be 2,110,111\$184, and the expenses at 1,936,098\$750. Let us hope that this estimated surplus will be realized.

—The receipts of the Porto Alegre custom-house last month were 705,750\$092, of which 418,571\$080 from imports and 232,254\$143 from the 60 net cent, 50 per cent, and to per cent, taxes on the same.

—The state of Ceará collected a "statistical tax" on national products of 2 per cent in 1893, 6½ per cent in 1894, and will collect 10 per cent in 1895. Let us hope that the tax will not go on increasing any further at this rate.

—The recent \$30,000,000 5% loan by the United States Treasury was all taken by one syndicate at 117,072, and yielded a total of \$35,538,500. The excess of eight and a half millions represents the premium paid by the purchasers.

—The revenue receipts of the state of Amazonas in 1893 amounted to 11,405,354\$488, nearly all of which was derived from the tobacco taxes on rubber. The exportation of this article amounted to 9,639,521 kilos, valued at 46,000,000\$.

—The extraordinary credit of 27,000,000\$ gold, or £3,000,000 sterling, voted by Congress for the purchase of war material for the departments of war and marine, has received the President's sanction and was published on the 21st inst.

—The Rio Grande do Sul government estimates its revenue for next year at 6,016,000\$, and its expenditures at 5,914,363\$330. There is evidently something wrong here, for the state of Rio Grande can not carry on its military operations within an expenditure of six thousand contos. This budget is something like Júlio de Castilhos himself.

—Poor old worn out Egypt is coming to the front again, to show what can be accomplished through good financial management. Next year her budget promises a surplus of £660,000 Egyptian, and there is an indication of a reduction in taxation. Here, in South America, with virgin soil and fewer complications, there are nothing but deficits to show as the result of government.

—It was reported by the *Gazeta de Notícias* on the 21st that various bankers were to meet on the 24th at the Parys-Bas Bank on that date to consider the conditions of the proposed credit of £3,000,000 to the Brazilian Treasury. It was generally considered, says one colleague, that a guarantee in gold, assets, type 1889, would be satisfactory. The *Jornal do Comércio* of the 22nd, however, says that the government will not give a guarantee in assets for any credit obtained abroad.

—It was reported by the *Gazeta de Notícias* on the 21st that various bankers were to meet on the 24th at the Parys-Bas Bank on that date to consider the conditions of the proposed credit of £3,000,000 to the Brazilian Treasury. It was generally considered, says one colleague, that a guarantee in gold, assets, type 1889, would be satisfactory. The *Jornal do Comércio* of the 22nd, however, says that the government will not give a guarantee in assets for any credit obtained abroad.

—As the work of the custom-house is again falling behind, we would remind the minister of finance that the fault is not due to a lack of officials or laborers, but to a lack of energy and organization. The *conferentes* are at their posts barely three hours a day, and a small part of this brief period is spent in aimless talk and smoking. If 10 to 13 is considered a good day's work for a custom-house official, then it should be ordered that the full five hours should be given to the service, instead of losing an hour in the morning and another in the afternoon, as is the practice at present.

—The executive decrees promulgating the extraordinary credits of Congress for the following purposes were signed on the 20th:—200,000\$000 for surveying the Bolivian frontier, 254,355\$765 for reconstructing the powder magazines on Ilha do Boquim, and 731,500\$00 for urgent constructions in various military establishments. The supplementary credit signed on the same day were: to pay certain increased salaries in the marine arsenal of this city, to pay various deficiencies in the finance department, including the sums owing the American Bank Note Co. and the Lloyd Brasileiro.

—The minister of industry has published an edict calling for tenders for the steamship service of the Amazon and its tributaries. There are nine separate lines to be covered, and the conditions are such that only citizens can safely tender.

The ships must bear under the national flag, subject to disqualification by the government, and to many conditions and requirements, which might cripple, or even ruin a foreign company.

The Chagan's Réunion company announces the intended construction of two more steamers of the *Cavadoras* type for its South American service. They will have a length of 102 metres, and carrying capacity for 55,000 bags of coffee. They are to be called the *Cavadoras* and the *Campos*. The last named is the same as a German steamer running on this coast, which is a master of steamer racing, as this duplication of names is sometimes confusing.

We take much pleasure in calling attention to the advertisement of the Curtice Brothers Co., which appears in another place. This establishment enjoys a very high reputation in the United States, for the excellent quality and packing of its goods, and we are glad to see that this reputation has been recognized in this market. It is not only one of the largest packing establishments in the United States, but it is located in one of the best fruit districts in that country. We know from personal experience of the quality of the fruits and vegetables of Western New York, and we feel confident that nothing better can be found.

COMMERCIAL

Rio de Janeiro, December 26th, 1894.

Par value of the Brazilian milreis (1,000) gold. 27 d.

do do do in U. S. coin at \$1.56,65 per £1. sig... 54.75 C15

do do do in U. S. (U. S. coin) Brasilia gold... 1,827

do £1. sig. in Brasilia gold... 8.89

Bank rate of exchange, official, on London 10-day 10% d

Present value of the Brazilian mil reis (gold)... 254.82

do do do (paper)... 403.75 gold

do do do in U. S. coin at \$1.80 per £1. sig... 20.75 C15

Value of £1. (S. 1.80 per £1. sig.) in Brazilian currency (paper)... 415.98

Value of £1. sterling... 242.56

Bank rate of exchange, official, on Paris 10-day 10% d

Present value of the Brazilian mil reis (gold)... 254.82

do do do (paper)... 403.75 gold

do do do in U. S. coin at \$1.80 per £1. sig... 20.75 C15

Value of £1. (S. 1.80 per £1. sig.) in Brazilian currency (paper)... 415.98

Value of £1. sterling... 242.56

Bank rate of exchange, official, on New York 10-day 10% d

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MARKET REPORT.

Rio de Janeiro, 17th December 1894.

Exports.

Coffee.—The suspension of the Central railway traffic to the interior will still be the cause of the small animation in the market. Sales have been about 30,000 bags, advices from Santos, we that the market continues firm.

Receipt is for the last week have been about 50,000 bags and prices at 12s 3d per 10 kilos superior.

The ve's cleared with coffee are:

	Augts.
Dec. 18 New York <i>Peloton</i>	8,772
18 do " Mexican Prince".....	2,008
19 do " Manitoba".....	6,644
20 do " Sátero".....	4,662
<i>Europe:</i>	
Dec. 18 Trieste <i>Bathori</i>	1,312
<i>Elsewhere:</i>	
Dec. 18 Pernambuco Brazil.....	35
18 Rio.....	20
18 Pará do Norte do.....	20
16 Pará.....	28
16 Manás do.....	54
20 Paranaúá <i>Alexandria</i>	140
20 Paraná do Sul do.....	35

Higher grade coffees are very scarce and quotations minor.

The br. skegs quotations are:

per arroba.	per arroba.
No. 6... nominal	No. 6... nominal
7... do	9... do

DAILY RECEIPTS AND SHIPMENTS OF COFFEE AT RIO DE JANEIRO.

| | Stock. | Shipments U. States. | Imports. | Exports. | River Port, etc. | C. & C. Co. | Total shipments. | Lage limitos. | Dec. 16. | Dec. 17. | Dec. 18. | Dec. 19. | Dec. 20. | Dec. 21. | Dec. 22. | Dec. 23. | Dec. 24. | Dec. 25. | Dec. 26. | Dec. 27. | Dec. 28. | Dec. 29. | Dec. 30. | Dec. 31. | Jan. 1. | Jan. 2. | Jan. 3. | Jan. 4. | Jan. 5. | Jan. 6. | Jan. 7. | Jan. 8. | Jan. 9. | Jan. 10. | Jan. 11. | Jan. 12. | Jan. 13. | Jan. 14. | Jan. 15. | Jan. 16. | Jan. 17. | Jan. 18. | Jan. 19. | Jan. 20. | Jan. 21. | Jan. 22. | Jan. 23. | Jan. 24. | Jan. 25. | Jan. 26. | Jan. 27. | Jan. 28. | Jan. 29. | Jan. 30. | Jan. 31. | Feb. 1. | Feb. 2. | Feb. 3. | Feb. 4. | Feb. 5. | Feb. 6. | Feb. 7. | Feb. 8. | Feb. 9. | Feb. 10. | Feb. 11. | Feb. 12. | Feb. 13. | Feb. 14. | Feb. 15. | Feb. 16. | Feb. 17. | Feb. 18. | Feb. 19. | Feb. 20. | Feb. 21. | Feb. 22. | Feb. 23. | Feb. 24. | Feb. 25. | Feb. 26. | Feb. 27. | Feb. 28. | Feb. 29. | Feb. 30. | Feb. 31. | Mar. 1. | Mar. 2. | Mar. 3. | Mar. 4. | Mar. 5. | Mar. 6. | Mar. 7. | Mar. 8. | Mar. 9. | Mar. 10. | Mar. 11. | Mar. 12. | Mar. 13. | Mar. 14. | Mar. 15. | Mar. 16. | Mar. 17. | Mar. 18. | Mar. 19. | Mar. 20. | Mar. 21. | Mar. 22. | Mar. 23. | Mar. 24. | Mar. 25. | Mar. 26. | Mar. 27. | Mar. 28. | Mar. 29. | Mar. 30. | Mar. 31. | Apr. 1. | Apr. 2. | Apr. 3. | Apr. 4. | Apr. 5. | Apr. 6. | Apr. 7. | Apr. 8. | Apr. 9. | Apr. 10. | Apr. 11. | Apr. 12. | Apr. 13. | Apr. 14. | Apr. 15. | Apr. 16. | Apr. 17. | Apr. 18. | Apr. 19. | Apr. 20. | Apr. 21. | Apr. 22. | Apr. 23. | Apr. 24. | Apr. 25. | Apr. 26. | Apr. 27. | Apr. 28. | Apr. 29. | Apr. 30. | Apr. 31. | May. 1. | May. 2. | May. 3. | May. 4. | May. 5. | May. 6. | May. 7. | May. 8. | May. 9. | May. 10. | May. 11. | May. 12. | May. 13. | May. 14. | May. 15. | May. 16. | May. 17. | May. 18. | May. 19. | May. 20. | May. 21. | May. 22. | May. 23. | May. 24. | May. 25. | May. 26. | May. 27. | May. 28. | May. 29. | May. 30. | May. 31. | June. 1. | June. 2. | June. 3. | June. 4. | June. 5. | June. 6. | June. 7. | June. 8. | June. 9. | June. 10. | June. 11. | June. 12. | June. 13. | June. 14. | June. 15. | June. 16. | June. 17. | June. 18. | June. 19. | June. 20. | June. 21. | June. 22. | June. 23. | June. 24. | June. 25. | June. 26. | June. 27. | June. 28. | June. 29. | June. 30. | July. 1. | July. 2. | July. 3. | July. 4. | July. 5. | July. 6. | July. 7. | July. 8. | July. 9. | July. 10. | July. 11. | July. 12. | July. 13. | July. 14. | July. 15. | July. 16. | July. 17. | July. 18. | July. 19. | July. 20. | July. 21. | July. 22. | July. 23. | July. 24. | July. 25. | July. 26. | July. 27. | July. 28. | July. 29. | July. 30. | July. 31. | Aug. 1. | Aug. 2. | Aug. 3. | Aug. 4. | Aug. 5. | Aug. 6. | Aug. 7. | Aug. 8. | Aug. 9. | Aug. 10. | Aug. 11. | Aug. 12. | Aug. 13. | Aug. 14. | Aug. 15. | Aug. 16. | Aug. 17. | Aug. 18. | Aug. 19. | Aug. 20. | Aug. 21. | Aug. 22. | Aug. 23. | Aug. 24. | Aug. 25. | Aug. 26. | Aug. 27. | Aug. 28. | Aug. 29. | Aug. 30. | Aug. 31. | Sept. 1. | Sept. 2. | Sept. 3. | Sept. 4. | Sept. 5. | Sept. 6. | Sept. 7. 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Ship Brokers and Commission Merchants,
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LIVERPOOL, BRAZIL AND RIVER
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FOR
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Steamer

COLERIDGE

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BAHIA, PERNAMBUCO
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2nd January 1895.

This Steamer is lighted by Electric light

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Issued for return voyage.

These steamers have all the possible comforts for 1st and
2d class Passengers. Doctor & Servant on board.
The voyage is much quicker than by way of England, &
without the inconveniences of transfer.

For freight apply to the Brokers

Wm. R. McNiven,

57, Rua 1º de Maio.

For passage and other information apply to the
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58, Rua 1º de Março

**ROYAL MAIL
STEAM PACKET COMPANY.**

Under contracts with the British and Brazilian
Governments for carrying the mails.

TABLE OF DEPARTURES,

1894

Date	Steamer	Destination
1895 Jan. 1	Clyde....	Montevideo and Buenos Aires.
Dec. 27	Trent	Bahia, Maciá, Pernambuco, Las Palmas Lisbon, Vigo, Southampton and Antwerp.

(*) This steamer only takes cargo and third class passengers.

This Company will have steamers from and to England
three times per month.

Insurance on freight shipped on these steamers can be
taken out at the Agency.

For freight, passages and other information apply to
Rua General Camara No. 2, Sobrado.
G. C. Anderson,
Superintendent.

**NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD,
BREMEN.**

Capital . . . 40,000,000 Marks.

Regular Lines of Steam Packets between
Bremen—United States
" Brazil
" River Plate
" China, Japan
" Australia

Departures from Rio de Janeiro on the 8th
and 23rd of each month to

Bahia, Lisbon, Antwerp and Bremen.
Passengers and cargo for all ports of the different lines
accepted.

Passing Rates: 1st cl. 3rd cl.
Rio—Anwerp, Bremen..... 500 Marks. 140\$000
" " Vigo..... 500 " 125\$000
" " Lisbon..... 500 " 125\$000

For further information apply to
HERM. STC., Agents.

Rua da Alfândega, No. 5. Rio de Janeiro.

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Lea & Perrins IS NOW
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DIAGONALLY ACROSS THE
OUTSIDE WRAPPER
of every Bottle of the
ORIGINAL WORCESTERSHIRE

Sold Wholesale by the Proprietors,
Worcester;
Cross & Blackwell, Ltd., London;
and Export Oilmen generally.
RETAIL EVERYWHERE.

COMMERCIAL PRINTING

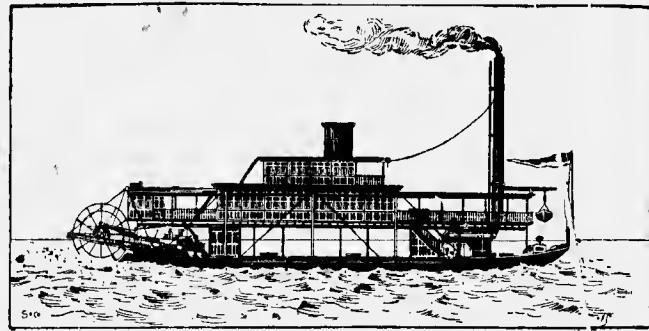
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